

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10 RSR-01 /153 R

DRAFTED BY IO:DHPOPPER:IO/UNP:CSYLVESTER:GS

07/17/73 EXT 29600

APPROVED BY IO:DHPOPPER

EUR:JAARMITAGE

----- 110890

R 172057Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 140161

EO: 11652 - GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, UN

SUBJECT: US/SOVIET COOPERATION ON UN ISSUES

1. SUMMARY: SOVIET DEPUTY PERM REP ISSRAELIAN, WHO IS SLATED FOR POSITION ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT TO ASST SEC FOR IO IN MOSCOW, CALLED ON ASST SEC POPPER JULY 13 FOR GENERAL REVIEW OF UN ISSUES. BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT USUN AND SMUN SHOULD BE ABLE TO WORK TOGETHER MORE CLOSELY IN LIGHT OF NEW ERA OF GOOD FEELING FOLLOWING NIXON/BREZHNEV VISIT. THEY AGREED EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF REFERRING IN A UNGA RES TO IMPROVED PROSPECT FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION GENERALLY, ARISING FROM CURRENT MOVES TOWARD RECONCILIATION AMONG MANY POWERS AND ON MANY ISSUES. ISSRAELIAN LAID PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON SOVIET HOPES FOR US UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR INITIATIVES ON DISARMAMENT AND WARNED THAT IF US AND SOVIETS UNABLE COOPERATE IN THIS AREA DANGER

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EXISTED THAT NON-ALIGNED WOULD TAKE CHARGE AND ORGANIZE

WORLD DISARMAMENT CONF EXCLUDING NUCLEAR STATES, WITH POTENTIAL FOR SERIOUS DAMAGE. AMB POPPER NOTED US RESERVATIONS ABOUT PAST SOVIET PROPOSALS IN UN ON DISARMAMENT AND DOUBTED OPPOSITION TO WDC WOULD ON BALANCE BE HARMFUL. AGREED IN PRINCIPLE THAT PERIODIC US-SOV DISCUSSIONS OF UN ISSUES WOULD BE HELPFUL. END SUMMARY.

2. ISSRAELYAN OPENED CONVERSATION BY NOTING GREAT DIFFERENCE IN NATURE OF SOVIET AND US RELATIONSHIP AT BEGINNING AND END OF HIS FIVE YEAR TENURE IN NEW YORK. CONSIDERING VAST IMPROVEMENT IN ATMOSPHERE USUN AND SMUN SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO MUCH MORE TO WORK TOGETHER.

3. ISSRAELYAN STRESSED SMUN DESIRE FOR MORE ADVANCE CONSULTATION TO AVOID CONFRONTATION THROUGH LACK OF UNDERSTANDING OF OTHER PARTY'S VIEWS. AS EXAMPLE, HE POINTED TO SOVIET NON-USE OF FORCE (NUF) INITIATIVE. SOVIETS THOUGHT THEY HAD TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT US POSITION ON LINKING OF NUF AND HANDLING OF WEAPONS ISSUES IN BILATERAL OR MULTILATERAL ARMS CONTROL NEGOTIATIONS. THEY WERE DISAPPOINTED AT LACK OF US INTEREST IN OR SUPPORT FOR THIS PROPOSAL AND FELT THAT PERHAPS IN FUTURE EARLIER CONSULTATION WOULD HELP. ISSRAELYAN ALSO MENTIONED SOV FAILURE TO CONSULT WITH US ON DIRECT BROADCAST SATELLITE PROPOSAL AND CONSEQUENT "SURPRISING" US VOTE AGAINST INITIATIVE.

4. IN EXTENDED DISCUSSION OF SOVIET WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE (WDC) PROPOSAL, POPPER WAS SKEPTICAL THAT ANY USEFUL RESULT COULD BE ATTAINED. NOTED REALLY USEFUL WORK WAS ALREADY UNDERWAY IN SALT AND CCD, AND STARTING ON MBFR. ISSRAELYAN STATED IF TWO MAJOR POWERS DID NOT JOIN IN EXERCISING LEADERSHIP IN MOVING TOWARD A WDC, HOWEVER GRADUALLY, THERE WAS REAL DANGER THAT NON-ALIGNED MAJORITY WOULD SEIZE INITIATIVE AND ORGANIZE A CONFERENCE EXCLUDING THE NUCLEAR POWERS. LATIN AMERICANS, LED BY MEXICO, ALREADY MOVING IN THIS DIRECTION IN CONNECTION WITH WDC PREPARATORY COMMITTEE ACTIVITY. RESULTS OF SUCH A CONFERENCE COULD BE DAMAGING TO BOTH US AND USSR. POPPER AND DEP ASST SEC HERZ DOUBTED SUCH A CONFERENCE WOULD GET OFF THE GROUND OR THAT IF CONVENED, CONFIDENTIAL

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IT WOULD ON BALANCE BE MUCH MORE HARMFUL THAN A CONFERENCE IN WHICH US WAS ONE OF A SMALL MINORITY. IT WAS ALSO POSSIBLE CHINESE WOULD BOYCOTT A FULL MEMBERSHIP DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE AS AN EXERCISE IN SUPER POWER HEGEMONY.

5. ISSRAELYAN SAID SOVS WERE CONCERNED FRANCE AND UK WOULD EVENTUALLY JOIN IN WORK OF PREPARATORY COMMITTEE AND IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR PRC TO STAY OUT. THE PRC MIGHT

FIND IT DISTASTEFUL TO BE IN THE SAME COMMITTEE WITH THE USSR, BUT IF THE US WERE TO CHANGE ITS MIND, CHINESE WOULD QUICKLY JOIN IN. IN ANY CASE, IT WAS ALMOST CERTAIN THAT NON-ALIGNED WOULD PLACE PRESSURE ON THE PRC TO PARTICIPATE.

6. POPPER POINTED TO NEW SITUATION THIS YEAR AS RESULT OF PROGRESS TOWARD BETTER RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND USSR, US AND CHINA, AND EAST AND WEST EUROPE, SINCE LAST SESSION AND ASKED IF SOVS THOUGHT THIS DEVELOPMENT MIGHT BE EXPLOITED POLITICALLY IN UNGA. ISSRAELYAN DESCRIBED SMUN MEETING WITH SYG JULY 12 IN WHICH SYG HAD SAID THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR GA TO WELCOME DETENTE IN A UNGA RES, OR PERHAPS IN SEPARATE PARA IN RES ON OTHER GENERAL POLITICAL SUBJECTS, INORDER TO DISPEL SUSPICIONS APPARENTLY BEING VOICED BY SOME AMONG NON-ALIGNED WHO WERE ANXIOUS ABOUT EFFECT OF GREAT POWER AGREEMENTS ON THEIR CAPABILITIES FOR MANEUVER.

7. ISSRAELYAN NOTED SOVS CURRENTLY HOLDING FORMAL BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ON UN MATTERS NOT ONLY WITH SOCIALIST COUNTRIES BUT ALSO WITH FRENCH AND OTHERS. POPPER INDICATED INTEREST IN POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING BILATERALS ON UN MATTERS WITH SOVS IN SIMILAR FORMAT TO THAT NOW USED BY US IN TALKS WE HAVE ANNUALLY IN CAPITALS WITH NUMBER OF OTHER IMPORTANT UN MEMBERS. IT WAS AGREED BOTH SIDES WOULD CONSIDER MATTER FURTHER. IF HELD, FIRST SUCH TALKS WOULD TAKE PLACE SUMMER 1974; IN PREPARATION FOR 1974 UNGA.

8. AT LUNCHEON FOLLOWING DISCUSSION ISSRAELYAN REITERATED GREAT INTEREST IN PURSUING POSSIBILITY OF CLOSER COOPERATION.

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TION.

9. FOR USUN AND MOSCOW: REQUEST YOUR COMMENTS ON SUGGESTION IN PARA 7 ABOVE.

10. FOR PARIS: DEPT WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION EMBASSY MIGHT HAVE ON NATURE OF GOF/SOV UN BILATERALS. RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE140161
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DHPOPPER:IO/UNP:CSYLVESTER:GS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS POPPER
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730728/aaaaaudl.tel
Line Count: 161
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <06-Dec-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US/SOVIET COOPERATION ON UN ISSUES
TAGS: PFOR, UR, UN
To: MOSCOW USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005